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Date: NOVEMBER 12, 2004

To: EXAMINER DERRICK W. FERRIS
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Fax #: (703) 8~~7~~⁷²-9315

From: FRANK C. NICHOLAS
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Client/Matter No.: PHF 99,598 (7790/322)

of Pages: 15
(including cover sheet)

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PTO/SB/30 (09-03)

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Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/551,816
Filing Date	APRIL 18, 2000
First Named Inventor	RAUL BRUZZONE
Art Unit	2683
Examiner Name	FERRIS, DERRICK W.
Attorney Docket Number	PHF 99.598 (7790/322)

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This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1 **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note. If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- ii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s) Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other _____

2 Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3 Fees

- The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1713.
- a. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by Credit Card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	FRANK C. NICHOLAS	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	33,983
Signature	<i>Frank C. Nicholas</i>	Date	NOVEMBER 12, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	FRANK C. NICHOLAS	Date	NOVEMBER 12, 2004
Signature	<i>Frank C. Nicholas</i>		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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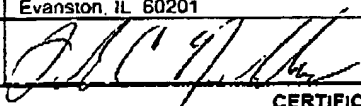
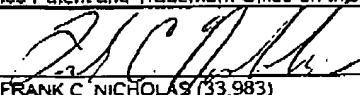
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TRANSMITTAL FORM <small>(To be used for all correspondence other than initial filing)</small>	Attorney Docket No.	PHF 99,598 (7790/322)
	Application Number	09/551,816
	Filing Date	APRIL 18, 2000
	First Named Inventor	RAUL BRUZZONE
	Group Art Unit	2663
	Examiner	FERRIS, DERRICK W

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to a Final Amendment Dated August 11, 2004 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Extension of Time Request (duplex) <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449, art. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ incomplete Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawings <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition <input type="checkbox"/> To Convert a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Request of Refund	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Brief <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Post Card Receipt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1713. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I hereby petition under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for any extension of time required to ensure that this paper is timely filed. Please charge any associated fees which have not otherwise been paid to Deposit Account No. 50-1713. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.		

CALCULATION OF FEE

				Small Entity		Large Entity	
Claims After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total	Minus		0	x \$9=	0	x \$18=	
Indep.	Minus		0	x \$44=	0	x \$88=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim				x \$150=	---	x \$300=	---
				total add'l fee	\$ 0	total add'l fee	\$

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm or Individual name	FRANK C. NICHOLAS Registration No. 33,983 CARDINAL LAW GROUP 1603 Orrington Avenue, Suite 2000 Evanston, IL 60201		
Signature			Date November 12, 2004
CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to (703) 872-9315 to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on this date.			
Signature			Date November 12, 2004
FRANK C. NICHOLAS (33,983)			